

## PIAVE RIVER IS AGAIN SCENE OF GREAT BATTLE

### CITY REFUSES, COUNTY PROMISES, TO BACK UP FIGHT ON INFLUENZA

**Red Cross Wants to Be Reimbursed For Money Spent.**

### MEETING AT CITY HALL

**Committee Named To Interview the County Authorities.**

The committee appointed yesterday afternoon at the conference of the City Board of Affairs, members of the Civic committee of the Rotary club and the Executive committee of the local Red Cross chapter, this morning paid a visit to the County Court sitting at the time as the County Board of Health and succeeded in securing the promise of that body to the effect that adequate funds would be provided to aid the Red Cross chapter in its fight against the influenza epidemic and in taking care of the victims in case the funds of the chapter should become depleted to the extent that financial aid must be forthcoming.

The committee consisted of Clarence D. Robinson as a representative of the citizens of the county, Ora Smith as a representative of the City Board of Affairs and Mrs. Samuel Leeper as representative of the Red Cross chapter.

The meeting yesterday was called by the City Board of Affairs acting upon a suggestion made in a letter received from C. D. Robinson, and signed himself and other members of the Civic committee of the Rotary club, such suggestion having been made to Mr. Robinson through an official of the local chapter that such action should be taken.

The executive committee of the Red Cross was asked to be present at the conference and responded. Some misunderstanding had arisen as to the purpose of the meeting with the result that health officials etc. were present as it had gone out that the meeting was to be held for the purpose of clamping down still tighter the lid on the influenza situation.

The real purpose of the meeting, it developed, was to devise means whereby the local chapter of the Red Cross might be reimbursed for money already in its treasury which might become depleted by the incessant demands made upon it by the Emergency epidemic.

Mayor Bowen called the meeting to order and asked the Red Cross what action they wished taken to the influenza situation. Mrs. F. E. Nichols, vice chairman of the local chapter and the spokesman stated that the organization did not know the purpose of the meeting, but had come in response to the invitation to do so by the Board of Affairs. Mrs. Nichols stated that some steps were necessary to be taken, however, to reimburse the organization for funds it might expend in combating the influenza situation and in caring for the victims. She read the telegrams from the National society in which it was stated that funds on hand in the treasury of the chapter might be used in combating the disease, but that if possible the treasury must be reimbursed by the town and county and that if such funds were not forthcoming from these sources that the state must be appealed to and that the state had been advised explicitly by the National organization as to what steps to take in the matter.

This phase of the situation was discussed pro and con and it was the consensus of opinion that the funds on hand in the treasury of the Red Cross must be used in this emergency. This the Red Cross agreed to do but asked that some assurance be given the organization by the board of Affairs that the treasury should be reimbursed in order that the war work of the organization be not impeded.

Mayor Bowen and other members of the Board of Affairs stated that the city was not in position to reimburse the Society for funds expended as no provision had been made for such (Continued on page eight.)

### More Nurses Or Suffering Will Result

Nurses are much in demand at Red Cross Emergency headquarters. There is a place ready for every nurse who will apply for the work, and unless the demand for nurses, which has not as yet been sufficient to take care of influenza cases in the city, is met, much undue suffering and perhaps unnecessary death will ensue.

Salaries for nurses are as follows: \$2 a day for volunteers, \$20 a week for practical nurses and \$30 a week for graduates.

Will nurses open for engagements, please call headquarters in the Jacobs building. This appeal is very urgent.

### NEW FLU CASES YESTERDAY 64

**Situation in City Better; Still Serious In County.**

Mrs. Albert Lehman who is undertaking the work of accumulating an authentic report of all influenza cases, pneumonia cases and deaths in the city at the present time of our epidemic, reports that there were 64 new cases in the city yesterday, two pneumonia cases and no deaths as far as she was able to learn. It seems to be a difficult matter to ascertain the number of deaths each day as reported by doctors and undertakers. Very often the report comes in no deaths and later, according to notice of deaths, by families there is found to be several which have not come to light through regular report. For this reason those in charge of the matter of reporting conditions in the city have been handicapped somewhat.

The influenza situation in the immediate city is better, according to report of several doctors and the Red Cross, but the situation in the surrounding towns is still serious. New England is having an unusually critical time and most other mining towns are suffering much from the "flu" which is being sent to suffering communities as fast as is possible. The mayor of Monongahela, Colonel Thos. G. Price, stated Saturday that if Monongahela needed an emergency "flu" hospital, one should be provided.

Wherever comfort and help can be provided, such alleviation is being secured, and it is the general opinion of all who are working in close relation with the disease which is running its slow course throughout the entire country that with care and proper quarantine, it will only be a matter of a short time now until the "flu" is under control.

### Inductions by the City Draft Board

While in Fairmont yesterday Lieut. Grant B. Cole, of the student army training corps, Morgantown, received two colored applicants through the city draft board. They are Wilbert Wilfong Williams and Cleveland Horn both of Fairmont. The officer wanted to see the boys. They came and waited on the table and in addition will receive a thorough training along educational lines.

Today the city draft board made arrangements to send two white men to the student army training corps at Morgantown. They are Fred Allen of this city, and William Workman, who had been connected with the engineering department of the Consolidation Coal Company.

### FINED \$25 EACH

Joe Tichnell and Blanche Kemple, arrested Sunday, the former charged with having conducted a disorderly house on the East side and the latter with having been found in the house, were each fined twenty-five dollars by Mayor Bowen at a special session of police court held last evening to consider this case. L. C. Musgrave represented the man and woman, while City Clerk Albert Kerns represented the city.

### LABORERS AND CARPENTERS Wanted for ESSENTIAL WORK Rivesville Power Plant.

### BARBERS' SECRETARY SAYS HE WAS TRICKED INTO SIGNING ENDORSEMENT OF COL. WATSON

**Did It to Oblige W. M. Rogers, States Federation Head. ...**

### ACTED AS INDIVIDUAL

**Truth Came Out When Barbers Got Together Last Night.**

Rebounding very awkwardly a boom-crang flew into the Democratic camp last night when the secretary of the Local Barber's Union, 675, of Fairmont, after a meeting with fellow craftsmen issued a statement to the effect that he was not acting as our officer of the union when he signed the so called endorsement of C. W. Watson, for U. S. Senate on the Democratic ticket. This is the first of similar actions to be taken by other trades unions in the city. It is reported.

Union labor filed a stirring protest yesterday all over the county against the statement made in a page advertisement which lauded the labor record of President Wilson and incidentally endorsed C. W. Watson who displedged to support Wilson yesterday.

Practically all laboring men are up in arms because they know full well the treatment they received in the past in the Fairmont district. Numbered among them are a large number of miners.

Because of the "flu" no formal meeting of the Barbers' Union could be held last night, but the members gathered to pay their dues over a short space of time. Hardly had the cases reached the room until some of them demanded of E. E. Clemens, secretary of the union, by whose authority and why he signed the endorsement of C. W. Watson.

The first spokesman said, "What do you mean by this, Clemens," as he drew forth a copy of the "Times" and pointed to the place where Clemens' name appeared. "I never endorsed him," (C. W. Watson) was Clemens' reply. Another member said, "we want to know on whose authority you did this? This was never done by the local at any of its meetings." Mr. Clemens finally was permitted to offer an explanation as to why signature appeared and he said: "Bill Rogers handed me the paper." A member soon shouted, "make a statement," which was suggested to clear the skirts of the Barbers' union, one of its members declaring that he had a man leave the chair in his shop already.

Mr. Clemens said that he preferred to see W. M. Rogers, President of the State Federation of Labor, of this city, before making a statement. "This is between you and us," exclaimed one of the members of the union.

From what was said it could be gleaned that the paper on which endorsements were made had been handed to Rogers by Tusca Morris. After a time the members made Mr. Clemens admit that he had no authority from the local union signing the endorsement. He had signed as an individual. Mr. Clemens protested his innocence of any wrong doing and said, "I am misinterpreted. I did not sign the endorsement." After promising the members of the Barbers' Union to make a statement the argument ceased.

Later in the evening Mr. Clemens made the statement printed elsewhere in the presence of witnesses of his own craft. Before he signed the statement Mr. Clemens phoned the residence of W. M. Rogers and endeavored to converse with him over the line. He was informed that Mr. Rogers was out of the city and would not return from Huntington until the end of the week. He had proposed to tell Rogers just what was what and how Rogers had steered him in bad.

Mr. Clemens declared to the members that he did not get a piece of money for the endorsement, and was anxious to square himself with the members because he admitted he had been victimized. According to Mr. Clemens Rogers called upon him several times to have him sign up. Probably two weeks ago Rogers called with the paper in his hand and asked him (Clemens) to sign it, saying, "I don't amount to anything and it won't be published." Mr. Clemens said that one of the chief reasons he signed was because of his reference to President Wilson's labor record and he was pained when he found that Rogers himself and remained in the background on the proposition and made other people the goats.

Mr. Clemens further stated that he had implicit faith in Rogers as a union labor man and signed the paper largely on Rogers' solicitation, thinking it was not out of place to do so. In fairness to Mr. Clemens it must be stated that he desired to come clean on the proposition and his feelings were not to be swayed.

### ENDORSEMENT OBTAINED BY FRAUD.

I DESIRE to state that I signed the endorsement of Col. Watson's candidacy which appeared in Monday's Fairmont Times under a misrepresentation of William M. Rogers, of Fairmont, and without the authority of Barbers' Local Union 675, of Fairmont, W. Va.

E. E. CLEMENS, Sec'y.

Witnesses—LEON SMITH,  
GEORGE L. DONHAM, Treas. of Local 675.

### THE GAS COMPANIES OR THE PEOPLE. (An Editorial)

ALL the bill board surface employed in the political campaign is devoted to the candidacies of men who want to go to the United States Senate, and most of the space in the newspapers is given over to discussion of one side or the other of the question of which party shall control the next Congress. These are important matters, to be sure, and they appeal powerfully to the imaginations of the voters, but they are not the only ones, and there are people in the world who would not care very much which side wins control of Congress if they could be sure the local issues were going to be decided their way.

For instance, Marion county voters may not be giving much thought to the election of members of the House of Delegates and the State Senate, but in the main offices of the exporting gas companies, located way off in other states, that is a matter of paramount interest in this campaign, and the indifference being displayed by the voters gives the greatest satisfaction to the gas people. If the voters are not a little more alert the gas companies, through their attorneys and political manipulators in this state, will slip one over on the people of West Virginia and the next legislature instead of representing the people of this sovereign state will be the property of, and consequently will represent, to the injury of the people, the Standard Oil company and capitalists of Philadelphia and New York who have grown immensely rich out of public service franchises which the people of West Virginia and the neighboring states granted them.

In Marion county the Democratic candidates for the House of Delegates were personally selected and placed upon the ticket by Charles Powell, who under the euphemistic title of attorney is a political jack of all trades for the gas companies. Powell picked these dummies and if they are elected they will vote just as Powell tells them to. To put the matter plainly, although every home and every industry in this county is interested in better treatment from the gas companies, which are pumping the natural gas from under our feet and sending it to Pittsburgh and Cleveland while our own people freeze and our industries close their doors for long periods at a time, they will vote squarely against their home people if Powell tells them to. They are Powell's men just as completely as any Boche in the German trenches is the Kaiser's man. And in his turn Powell is the gas companies' man.

And there does not seem to be anything that Powell will not do to serve his employers. It is related of the present campaign and in such circumstantial detail that there does not seem to be the slightest doubt about the truth of it that at the beginning of his primary campaign, when it seemed possible that Powell's right to pick quietly the tools he wanted to serve him in the Legislature would be disputed, he went to Colonel Watson and demanded help, and that gentleman, who probably did not have time to think the matter out very clearly, went to the candidates closer than the Powell had picked and asked them to get off the ticket because a contest at the primaries might do Watson harm. Colonel Watson is a stockholder in and a very influential member of the Monongahela Valley Traction company, and the M. V. T. is as much interested in seeing that honest men who will represent Marion county in the Legislature are sent to Charleston as any one, but he did this at Powell's demand. It would be interesting to know what kind of political blackmail Powell used in this case. But more interesting even than that would be the explanation of why Colonel Watson's friends permitted this high handed outrage against their man and against the people of Marion county to be perpetrated.

Is the whole Democratic organization in Marion county, from Fairmont Farms to Jackson street, in the pay and the service of the Standard Oil and the gas companies Standard Oil owns?

### FLIES TO FATHER'S BEDSIDE IN HURRY

**Son of James M. Schoonmaker Makes Record Flight From Dayton.**

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 29.—Flying at an average rate of more than two miles a minute, James M. Schoonmaker, Jr., son of the vice president of the Pittsburgh and Lake Erie railroad, covered the distance of 228 miles from the Wright flying field at Dayton, Ohio, to Pittsburgh in one hour and 45 minutes yesterday afternoon.

Schoonmaker, who was piloted by Howard Rinehart, made the flight, which is considered a record, when he learned that his father was seriously ill, following an operation at his home here.

### Trolley Rails To To Be Laid Today

By the end of the day E. B. Moore, general manager of the Monongahela Valley Traction, believed that practically all of the trolley rails would be laid across the new south side bridge. He believed that within two or three weeks trolley cars would be running across the new bridge.

### RECEIVERS NAMED FOR VALVE AND TANK

**Friendly Proceeding Taken to Tide Over Crisis Caused By War.**

A friendly petition was filed in Circuit Court yesterday afternoon by the Greater Fairmont Investment Co., asking that receivers be appointed for the American Valve & Tank Co. The American Valve & Tank Company was organized a little over a year ago and erected a plant in the eastern section of the city for the manufacture of special valves and tanks. Owing to war conditions the plant was delayed in construction and war prices ran the cost up to more than it was estimated.

The demand on the part of the government for the material used in the manufacturing of the product of the American Valve & Tank Co., such as pig iron, copper, coke, etc., made it almost impossible to secure this material for the operation of the plant, but recently the company has secured some government orders and it is felt that it might now be possible to continue the plant in operation. In order to protect all of the interests associated with the company, the petition for the appointment of receivers was made and the Court named Clarence D. Robinson, president of the Greater Fairmont Investment Company; Walter H. Finley, assistant general manager of the Fairmont Mining Machinery company, and Charles A. Dulf, chief engineer of the American Valve & Tank Company as receivers.

The receivers have given bond and have taken charge of the property. The American Valve and Tank Company joined in the petition.

### GOOD LOADING RECORD FOLLOWED GOOD CAR SUPPLY

**Flu Situation at the Mines Continues Very Bad.**

Loading of coal cars in the Fairmont region was very fine yesterday and an aggregate of 1,256 were run up despite the prevalence of the "flu". The mines appear to have recovered more rapidly and more completely from the ravages of the "flu" than the railroads. This goes to show that the production in the Fairmont region would be a top-notch if the empties could flow in greater numbers into the region.

Last Week's Loading. According to U. B. Williams, local representative of the railroad administration, there were 4,722 cars loaded in the Fairmont district last week. This is an average increase of 117 cars. While the loading figures do not disclose anything unusual they do indicate, however, that there is a slight inclination toward an increase.

"Flu" Reported Worse. Inroads are being made by the "flu" in areas not formerly attacked while in others there have been increased cases noted. Balkan mine of the Balkan Coal Company, Dola, Harrison county, reported seven additional cases today to the office of the district administration. A total of twenty-eight cases are now reported from there.

Trying the Serum. Midland mine of the Midland Coal Company, located near Philippi, has inoculated forty-five miners and not a case has developed among them thus far. The serum was procured from the Frick Steel Company where it was developed among the 250 inoculated. Of 100 men not inoculated 35 cases developed.

Two additional cases of the "flu" were reported at Cambria mine along the Monongahela river. There are now a total of eleven cases.

Elkins Mine Hard Hit. Nine of the ten mines of the Elkins Coal and Coke Company, Morgantown, are down today because of the "flu". The foremen of the various mines and their families have administered to the miners until they themselves have fallen victims to the disease. The direct result has been that the miners, where all record of him disappeared. From what can be gathered only one mine could be operated today.

Lost in Buckhannon. Every effort to locate Dr. J. B. Duncan of the public health service, who was directed to report to Fairmont from Kingwood, has been futile according to F. J. Patton, secretary of Northern West Virginia Coal Operators' Association. From Kingwood Dr. Duncan was traced to Buckhannon, where all record of him disappeared. From what can be gathered (Continued on page eight.)

### YANKS ON ITALIAN FRONT

**Fifteen Thousand  
Austrians Are  
Captured**

### BATTLE VERY HOT ONE

**It is Definite Part of The  
Great Allied  
Offensive.**

(By Associated Press) ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS on the Piave, Oct. 28.—Fifteen thousand prisoners have been taken by the British, Italian and French up to today in the advance across the Piave, which for the third time in one year is the scene of desperate battle.

This time, however, the tables are turned against the Austrians, who are steadily being pressed back from the eastern bank of the river.

The battle now has been going on for five days and has been marked by desperate resistance on the part of the Austrians.

They have directed their artillery fire against the pontoon bridge thrown across the Piave and their bombing airplanes also have caused trouble for the Allies. The Allies not only have had to battle against the swift river current but also to contend with several of the pontoon foot bridges damaged by the Austrians.

Once across the river the Allies have had to overcome strong Austrian trench positions and machine gun posts.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—American troops are on the verge of active participation in the great war on a third major front. This was the interpretation given here today by the from Italian headquarters that Americans are standing in reserve behind the British and Italians forces now driving across the Piave.

The news is considered significant, not because of the size of the American contingent in Italy or the direct effect it may have on the battle, but because it indicates that the Italian drive is a definite one of the great offensive that is rapidly bringing complete defeat to the Central powers.

It has added meaning to officials here also since Austria is now pleading for an immediate armistice.

### HOT WORK FOR THE AMERICAN ARMY

**Germans Shelled Their Positions Northwest of Verdun.**

(By Associated Press) WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY Northwest of Verdun, 10 a. m., Oct. 29.—Activities along the front of the American front began long before daylight this morning with a furious bombardment. The enemy opened a heavy fire with gas shells at 2:30 o'clock, which was changed to high explosives between 4 and 5. The American artillery responded. American patrols were active in the Bantheville woods all night.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY Northwest of Verdun, 7:50 a. m., Oct. 29.—The artillery bombardment and machine gun fire reached a great intensity during the night. The first was especially intense in Belleau and Oromont woods.

The activity died down on the front west of the Meuse and there was no important action of any nature this morning.

OVER THERE Guy McDougal of this city, has received word that Private Teddy G. McDougal of Headquarters company, 150th Infantry, is landed safely on the other side.

T. F. Randall has been notified that his son, Sergeant George F. Randall, has arrived on the other side. Randall was trained at Hattiesburg.

**WANTED**  
Girls and women, 16 years and over for selecting bottles. Apply  
**Owens Bottle Machine Co.**

**NOTICE**  
To City Taxpayers.  
2% per cent discount allowed on taxes paid during October and November. Pay early and avoid waiting. Office open evenings 7 to 9.  
J. C. ROBINSON,  
City Treasurer.

**LABORERS AND  
CARPENTERS  
Wanted for  
ESSENTIAL WORK  
Rivesville Power Plant.**